



November/December 2013

The Dredging *Link*

Frank Hamons Retires from Maryland Port Administration

Frank Hamons, deputy director for Harbor Development, retired on November 1 after thirty-four years of service at the Maryland Port Administration.

Frank's long tenure was marked by numerous accomplishments. He oversaw the dredged material placement site at Hart-Miller Island beginning with its construction and continuing through 25 years of operation as it received all material dredged from Baltimore Harbor. He worked to refit Cox Creek as a placement site, and he managed the design and construction of the award-winning placement site at Masonville. Frank also worked with the Army Corps of Engineers to make the restoration of Poplar Island a reality – the 1,100-acre site replicates the footprint of the original island and provides placement capacity for material dredged from Bay channels.



During Frank's time at the Port Administration, outreach to stakeholders and communities significantly increased. This earned praise for the Port Administration as a state agency that is committed to working with its constituents. The success of the dredging program, particularly over the past decade, is testament to the wisdom of making outreach a priority.

Frank has taken his vast experience to the consulting firm Gahagan and Bryant, where he is working on dredging projects in other ports around the country. The Port Administration community wishes Frank a fond farewell, and welcomes Dave Blazer as the next leader of Harbor Development.



The Maryland Port Administration has been ramping up activities designed to make the Port of Baltimore a truly sustainable entity. This includes a wide variety of environmental initiatives to reduce pollutants, mitigate for activities taking place on terminal properties, and test new approaches to improve sustainability.

One recent example is the installation of an "algal scrubber" at the Dundalk Marine Terminal that helps remove nutrients from the water. This device pumps water from the Patapsco, uses sunlight and the nutrients found in the water to grow algae, and enables the algae to be harvested before returning clean water to the river.

It's dredging season in Maryland! Most dredging in the state takes place during winter months in order to minimize the potential impacts on living critters in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.



Dredging is currently underway in the harbor channels, which are maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers. Material dredged from this job is going to Cox Creek, where inflow will occur in early January"

Annual Report Available Online

The annual report of the Dredged Material Management Program for 2013 was approved by the Dredged Material Management Committee on November 13 and presented to the Executive Committee on December 20.

The report highlights accomplishments from 2013. Perhaps more importantly, it notes issues and challenges confronting the dredging program and describes priority actions planned for 2014. It reflects the work of Maryland Port Administration staff, along with input from the many committees that support the dredging program in Maryland.

The annual report is available on the dredging program's website, *Safe Passage*, at www.mpasafepassage.org in the News section.

The Port Administration has added a *GreenPort* page to its website, which includes photos and information on many environmental initiatives. Visit <http://mpa.maryland.gov> and click on the *GreenPort* button to learn more.

In January, the *2013 GreenPort Annual Report*, a four-page color publication, will be available as a handout for groups wishing to learn more about the Port Administration's environmental work. For copies, contact Katrina Jones at kjones1@marylandports.com.